Volume 9

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Number 9

WITHIN THE WEEK

It is sobering to reflect that the people of the U S have less than 8 wks to acquaint themselves with the gen'l nature and substance of world peace proposals. The San Francisco conference of United Nations, scheduled for Apr 25, will fill in the chinks in the internat'l peace plan, as outlined at Yalta.

It is your responsibility as a good citizen to know what all the shooting—or, let us hope, the end-of-shooting—is about.

As we said last wk, there's nothing particularly new or sensational in the Yalta conference report, as published. Nothing, that is, to surprise those who have closely followed developments to date. But it is a document of vast potentialities. You must know what it says, and implies. Get a copy of the printed report (full text in all newspapers) and read it carefully. If you have not already done so, you should familiarize yourself with the Dumbarton Oaks plan, since it is basic in the new world order. Sec'y Stettinius has a very good summary in Feb Readers' Digest.

In final analysis, responsibility for world peace plan will devolve upon Senate. If our Senators have courage and clear-cut convictions, they can determine conditions, since by every practical consideration, they dominate. Debate should start by early summer. This is most important document

of our generation. Make your voice heard by those who are fashioning your future and that of your children's children.

PACIFIC: What's the significance of a little old island, containing scarcely 8 sq mi, much of which is such rugged terrain it can be put to no practical purpose? There are several reasons why the stiff price paid for Iwo may well prove a military bargain. Tho it is not large enough for a primary airfield, still from this strategic point, 750 mi from Japan, we'll be able to conduct daily bomber raids, with fighter protection, on Jap home islands. More significant, perhaps, is the psychological aspect. By this move, we have signed, sealed and delivered notice to Japan that we have naval control of the Pacific. They know now that we can pick and choose, landing wherever we gather sea power to outweigh specific enemy land forces.

INTER - AMERICAN CONFER-ENCE: The parley which opened in Mexico City this wk, is, in a sense, preliminary to the San Francisco meeting. Gen'l objective is to strengthen hemisphere cooperation in conduct of war; to seek economic political solidarity of American nations; to reconcile regional policies of these nations with world security organizations.



SHIFTING SANDS

Industrial developments on the Pacific coast should be watched closely. They are of the greatest significance. Western interests are determined to keep huge new war plants going permanently, and to hold most of population that has migrated to that area. . . College basketball gambling scandal airs a situation long recognized in athletic circles. Intercollegiate athletics needs a Czar and unsavory publicity may bring action. . . With closing of horse tracks baseball magnates are on uneasy seat lest gamblers try invasion of ball parks. Private detectives and extra police will guard against threatened evil. . . While it's true that local meets with out-of-town attendance under 50 don't require permits, ODT doesn't sanction such groups. Official attitude: cancel any meeting using transportation, hotel facilities until material situation is less critical. Trade shows

Trade shows drawing entries from a distance must have ODT permit.



FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE MENTALLY MAROONED



"HE WHO NEVER QUOTES, IS NEVER QUOTED" Charles Haddon Spurgeon

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"I don't understand why anybody pays me for expressing my opinions. I just love to do it."—DOROTHY THOMPSON.

46 99

"You gave me gas for which to go to work about a me age. Now I am out of gas on acc't of having a baby, and I want more for the same purpose."—Letter to a Pittsburgh ration board.

66 99

"You must learn that each infraction of military regulations is not a personal affront to yourself. Make your head save your club."—Col Wm H Maglin, addressing conference of M Ps.

"I had bailed out in the bedroom of the farmer's daughter."—Flying Officer J P Carse, who parachuted at night, thru the roof of a Belgian farmhouse, causing considerable commotion.

44 99

"Our 1st marriage ceremony was so much fun we vowed we'd have a ceremony each yr."—Lt R E Bow.-Es, Washington, and his bride of a yr, applying for another marriage license in Independence, Kans.

"You may rest assured the British gov't is entirely opposed to sharks."—Prime Minister Winston Churchill, asked what Britain was going to do to follow American development of "shark-chasing device" for protection of seamen and airmen.

"They find destruction easier and more pleasurable than creation, and they have a Satanic instead of a Divine scale of values."—Dr F B STRAUSS, British hospital physician for psychological medicine, deploring the growing group of children distinguished by "inability to love anything or anybody" in Britain.

"He is important because of the terrific enthusiasm for music he has instilled in the youth of the country.

—JOHN C KENDEL, pres of the Music Educator's Nat'l Conference, asserting that, regardless of his personal opinion of crooners and swooners, The Voice (Frank Sinatra) is really contributing something to music.



"Once we've landed we're just overpaid infantry." — Pvt JAMES Chrisiansen, paratrooper wounded in Battle of Bastogne.

"I celebrated too much."—Anonymous correspondent, sending two \$100 bills to Police Chief, Wichita, Kan, to pay for a jewelry store window broken the night FDR was nominated for Pres, in '32.

"We must now realize that it is not impossible for the enemy to attempt landing on the homeland."— Tokio domestic broadcast, quoting editorial in influential newspaper Maintchi.

"We must plan as though it were going to be a long war—and then we won't be disappointed."—Gen'l JOSEPH W STRLWELL, venturing no predictions about the length of the war.

66 99

"I would not shoot one with American ammunition for all the tea in China."—NESTOR G HINTZ, amateur gunsmith of Milwaukee, alarmed at what may happen if people begin playing around with Japanese "Arisaka" military rifles, which are being sent into this country by the thousands as souvenirs of war.

"The enemy may discover you and shoot you; your own men may shoot you; or both sides may start shooting at you at the same time."—Five mbrs of advanced American outpost in France, admitting shortcomings in their method of eluding Nazis. Finding themselves back of the German lines, they saw enemy patrol start off in direction of American lines; got up and marched along with them.

"I believe that women's hats should be sillier than ever—as long as there are some brains under them."—Mrs Harrison Williams.

"Not one Japanese ought to die before he has killed 10 enemy soldiers."—Токто Radio, quoting order of the day declaration by the commander-in-chief of Iwo Island.

"It was so funny. There were people just like us, and yet we couldn't talk to them." — Judy Roberts, a singer from Texas, describing her experiences with the 1st USO camp show to play in Russia.

"The reaction to him has been extremely good." — Spokesman for sponsor of Hit Parade, denying speculation that opera singer Lawrence Tibbett, successor to Frank Sinatra, won't continue on the show.

"I thought she just wanted a divorce; I didn't know she was tryin' t' take my meat."—Tulsa, Okla husband who made no objection to a proposed separation until his mate put in claim for 5 household hogs.

46 99

"The Gov't must never be in a situation where it must confess that it cannot squelch a racket."—Judge Thomas F Meany charged a Federal grand jury in N J investigating black mkt operations in cigarets.

"I didn't get my 1945 calendar yet." — Only complaint of Willis Dann, 80, rescued after several wks of solitary confinement in his snowbound farm house near Binghamton, N Y.

"Instead of playing at being superior, our enemies should be ashamed of themselves for attacking us at odds of 10 to 1."—Berlin home radio, quoting Propaganda Minister Goebbels from an article in Das Reich.

"It was tough sledding all the way. I always wanted to play with my kids more than my books."—Mrs Marjorie Skillin, 26, of Medford, Mass, mother of 3 children, who left college 5 yrs ago to marry, kept up her studies and received her degree at Tufts College last wk.



"In some communities the color line is allowed to take precedence over the all-American line in time of war."—PAUL V McNUTT, quoted in Negro Digest.

On the Other Hand ...

American tradition and to the American cause are the intellectuals and, particularly, those who have earned Ph D degrees under the conditions prevailing today in American institutions of higher learning."—Fr WM J MILLOR, pres, U of Detroit.

"It is true that there are liberal minds on every faculty, and they should be there. The words 'college', a collection, and 'university', pertaining to the universe, the whole, would be misnomers if all shades of opinion were not represented."—Dr John A Hannah, pres, Mich State College.

"Congressmen no longer can afford striped breeches and cutaway coats, even for official funerals. Few now even have dress suits—only essential clothing."—MAURY MAVERTICK, supporting bill to increase Congressional salaries from \$10,000 to \$12,500.

"This court has no more right to be tardy than the witnesses and the jurors, and therefore this court assesses Mabry Carlton the sum of \$15."—MABRY CARLTON, judge of the court of criminal records at Jacksonville, Fla, fining himself for arriving in court 20 minutes late.

44 99

"Anyone who does anything likes to hear or look at someone who does it better."—ARTIE SHAW, popular jazz orchestra leader, defending his liking for classical music. (Asked about bobby socks, SHAW hedged: "I don't like the hysteria stuff, but when you consider what a Nazi program would do with this steam, I feel this is the lesser of 2 evils.")

"It makes me feel a hundred."—
ROB'T M ROWND, age 100, of Riple,
N Y, commenting on the weather.
""

"Aye, aye sir!"—Seaman Ray Chambless, of Davis, Okla, answering customary "do you take this woman?" during marriage ceremony.

"You just can't kill good people."
—Observation of Mrs Jack Cook, 81-yr-old, of La Junta, Colo, who spent the night walking around a fencepost to keep from freezing when lost in a snowstorm.

"(Sentiment for a nat'l service act is lacking) because the war is not on our doorstep. The women of this country don't want a nat'l service act... The minute (they) want it, we will have it."—Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt, at a press conference.

"He refuses to brush his teeth, claiming the use of tooth powder would wear same away."—Charge made by Mrs Kathyleen Krey, Miami, Fla, filing suit for divorce against her husband, Grover Lee Krey.

44 99

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"I was born away from here and have traveled thru 33 different nations, and only in the U S did I find something that could not be found anywhere else—economic freedom."

—LOUIS A ROZZINI, 2nd vice-pres, California Farm Bureau Federation.

"I'm not a drinking man, your honor. I was just goin' into those taverns t' buy cigarets. But you know how it is. You've got t' buy a couple o' drinks before you can even approach the bartender on the subject of smokes." — Thos Farrell, Buffalo, N Y, presenting timely alibit for drunkenness charge.

44 99

"Well, your honor, my girl is coming from Phila, and we plan to be married, so I thought I'd have the dishes ready." — MARION PAULTNEY, 19-yr-old Oakland, Calif lad, arrested for theft. The boy also took 25 pkgs of chewing tobacco, and the judge asked about that: "Well," was the response, "after we get married, I plan to take up chewing."

"Sure, I get sore when a ball player gives me the business. But I just say, 'Listen, Pinelli, keep your shirt on. You used to call them worse names than that.' "—BABE PINELLI, former 3rd baseman, now a Nat'l League umpire.

"The minute I learned he had been so brave, I sat right down and crocheted a Purple Heart and sent it to him special delivery."—Young bride of a Hays, Kan soldier who, according to reports, had distinguished himself in battle.

"Boys, that has authority. When they toast in that it has strong language."—War Mobilization Director James F Byrnes, back from the Crimean conference, described to Washington newspaper men a powerful brand of Russian Vodka containing red pepper.

"I don't want to be rescued on any shaky ladder; I'll come down when I'm properly dressed."—Mrs Antoinette Rudolph, Chicago widow, aged 50, addressing firemen, who shouted thru the window that her house was ablaze. (Mrs Rudolph, who was taking a bath, dressed leisurely, made her way down a smoke-filled stairway.)



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COLUMNISTS

"G I Joe"
RUTH MILLETT

Three soldiers have started a campaign against the term, "GI Joe."

They don't like it, think it lacks dignity, makes little sense, and they threaten: "If the civilian persists in saddling us with that squirrely tag, we may hang one on him that is just as distasteful. Wonder how he'd like 'Cost-Plus Clem' or 'Mass-Production Mose?'"

The three GI's (beg pardon, soldiers) who hate that term can't possibly know what affection, pride and hope it represents to the average civilian.

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For the average civilian has a "GI Joe" in his own family—a son, a husband, a brother, a nephew. And when he speaks of a GI it is with affection and warmth.

"GI Joe" is the boy in the family, or the boy next door.

Civilian America is living for his letters saying "I'm okay; don't worry about me" these days. His courage makes civilian America proud. His suffering brings tears to civilian America's eyes.

There is no condescension, no ridicule, no amusement in that title, "GI Joe."

AGE-Youth

Curiously, the more science actually extends our life span, the more the youth myth shortens our realizations of life and makes us unhappy. . . All day the radio chants the dire myth of the bride who grew old overnight and lost her husband because she didn't use the right soap, the right vacuum cleaner, the right breakfast food. In my streetcar I see an undertaker's advertisement portraying a boyish father, a teen-age wife, and a smiling baby, all staring complacently at the setting sun. Their graves are nearly paid for on the installment plan and life is complete.—Thomas Hornsey Ferril, Harper's Mag.

AMERICA—Democracy

A convincing little testimonial of American democracy in action during this war: the 1st man killed in the armored forces was a Negro from Ky; the 1st prisoner we took was captured by a Japanese-American; the 1st man off the landing barges at Anzio beach was named Krzystofiak.—Protestant Voice.

BLACK MARKET

To discourage black marketeers from attending a fair in a North Jutland town the citizens formed a watch corps of 25 men armed with truncheons. As warning they put up a sign saying: "All black market operations and games of chance are forbidden at the fair. Those who disobey this order are kindly asked to order their own ambulances since they'll be left where they fall."—The Danish Listening Post.

CIVILIZATION

It is unbusiness-like and wasteful to try to weed out evils from our civilization while we complacently stand by as the weeds are being planted.—The New Republic.

COMPENSATION—Contrasts

Geo Jean Nathan, writing in American Mercury, lists a number of Hollywood magnificoes, with latest annual income of each, as reported by Treasury Dep't. Directly beneath each name is that of an immortal, with the largest annual income he rec'd, reckoned in American dollars:

L B Mayer	\$1,138,922
Wm Shakespeare	1,114
Walter Wanger	710,372
W A Mozart	2,300
Deanna Durbin	282,250
Adelina Patti	42,000
Tommy Dorsey	165,817
Tom Paine	750

But Walter Winchell reminds us that Shakespeare and Paine didn't have to ret'n 90% or more of their income as taxes!

DISCIPLINE

Discipline is accomplished when the individual youth or adult, has learned to make his choices on the basis of fair reasoning rather than on that of desire.—Anna H Hayes, "What Price Discipline?" Nat'l Parent-Teacher, 2-'45.

They DO say . . .

There's sly laughter over a sentence from the jacket blurb of KATHLEEN WINSOR'S fabulous opus: "Intèrestingly enough, it was her husband's home work that started her writing Forever Amber." And a current silly, going the rounds: If traffic lights should be frozen between the "Stop" and "Go" what would we have? Answer: Forever Amber. (Well, we told you it was silly!). . LEONARD LYONS points out that 1st issue of the new mag, This Month, has article by JOHN TEBBEL on "The Ghost-Writing Menace", while same issue contains another article ghost-written by TEBBEL. . . Next issue of Fortune will cover vitamin industry in expansive fashion. . . Vogue sometime ago suggested beer as hair rinse, now reports a beauty salon has adopted beverage shampoo with highly gratifying results. "The hair-dryer takes away the last, least whiff of malt."

ENTERPRISE

An American Air Force cpl in N Africa developed a yen for tangerines. He had plenty of cash, but money meant nothing to natives.

Noting native interest in any item of U S apparel, he rummaged around, found an old barracks bag. Approaching a native who had been indifferent to his cash offers, the cpl cut a couple of holes in the bottom of the bag. Putting his legs thru these holes, he pulled up the bag, tied it around his chest. The native was entranced with the new costume. The cpl left with 4 bu of tangerines.—Reader's Scope.



EXERCISE-Lack

In 1941, there were approximately 40 million sitters at baseball games, 10 million sitters at football events and 5 million golfers. The rough outdoor life of early American pioneering days fades farther and farther away.—Thomas K Cureron, "Physical Fitness," Hygeia, 3-'45.

FEAR-Effect of

There is the old story of the fellow who refused to pass a grave-yard at night because he was afraid of ghosts. When told that ghosts never hurt anybody, he replied, "Yes, I know that ghosts can't hurt you, but they will make you hurt yourself."—WM P Knng, "A Black Face—A Red Flag," Christian Advocate.

GREATNESS

The common denominator of greatness is greatness of heart.—
CHANNING POLLOCK, "Only Our Hearts Make Us Great," Democracy in Action.

JAPAN-Production

All industrial production in Japan proper is concentrated in eight cities. . All these cities are within air-line distance of one another, no farther than from N Y to Washington. A fast bomber could fly over all of them in succession within the space of an hr.

Each of these cities has about the same physical characteristics as Tokio. And if we are able to lay upon Tokio the weight of the bombs that was laid upon Berlin in any half-doz of our great mass raids there, then Tokio will simply cease to exist. It is that sort of city.—Morris Markey, "What It Means To Bomb Japan," Liberty, 2-3-45.

LITTLE THINGS

The triumph song of life would lose its melody without its minor keys.—Mary Clark Leeper, "Is It Worth The Price?" Trained Nurse.

MARRIED LIFE

A couple who had been having rough sailing asked their minister to call. During the course of the evening he remarked: "Just look at that cat and dog lying there so peacefully before the fire. They are not fighting even if they do not see eye to eye on everything."

"Yeah," spoke the husband, "but you just try tying them together and see what happens!"—Louisville Courier-Jnl.

Meditation for Harassed Shoppers

What impertinences, what taunts, flouts he must bear in his trade, and must not show the least signal of disgust: he must have no passions, no fire in his temper. . . if he will be a complete tradesman—Daniel Defoe, The Complete English Tradesman, (1726).

MILITARY—Training

It is absurd to say that a yr of military training will take a yr out of a boy's education. It will add a yr—a most valuable yr. . .

America's foremost educators should be asked to co-operate, so that methods used successfully in colleges will be available to Army and Navy. Intensive aptitude tests should be made and the men carefully assigned to their military tasks. . .

The churches, rightly, will want much to say about the way the boys are handled, and their assistance should be encouraged. The selection of the right kind of chaplains should be as much their responsibility as it is the Army's or the Navy's.—HARRY L HOPKINS, "Tomorrow's Army And Your Boy," American Mag. 3-'45.

MODESTY-of The Great

There is a school of music for the wounded at Halloran Hospital where a number of distinguished musicians are giving their services. . . The other day one of the instructors, a well known conductor, was floored by a request for instruction on the "sweet potato." With a modesty unusual in his specialty he replied; "I have never learned to play it but there are certain general principles governing tone production on wind instruments. We'll get 2 ocarinas and learn how to play together."-Doug-LAS MOORE, editorial in Sat Review of Literature.



Recent statements to the effect that our servicemen dislike the term "G I" are wholly unfounded. Confusion results from the fact that a group recently expressed aversion to being called "G I Joe". This practice, they say, is on a par with calling all Pullman porters "George". But so far as "G I" goes, that's the soldier's own invention (short, of course, for Government Issue) and he has real affection for it. You can call him a "G I" and he'll grin appreciatively—but junk the "Joe"!

With the disabled veteran in mind, a number of states are planning specific legislation that will assure seeing-eye dogs the right to enter public bldgs and public conveyances. These dogs, escorting blind persons, are rarely barred, but with more extensive use, it is deemed advisable to establish a definite legal status for them.

Britain reports 5,000,000 more persons wearing spectacles than before the war. One reason is call-up of oldsters for exacting war work. Army tests also revealed unsuspected defects in vision. . In U S, WPB is starting drive to conserve eyesight and will work closely with unions. N Y dressmakers now receive free eye exams, treatment and glasses, where needed. Bill paid jointly by employer and union, as part of health plan.

Two items from our Ain't-Knowledge-Wonderful dep't: Starlings which are now becoming a prime pest in many U S cities are descendants of 100 birds imported from England to destroy caterpillars in N Y's Central park. . One-eighth of all gold mined since 1500 now lies at the bottom of the seas.



AUTOMOBILE: Mention has been made before of automatic headlight-dimmer, operating on "electric eye" principle. Model developed by Arrow Safety Device, Mt Holly, N J is ready for production postwar. This or similar device will not doubt be standard equipment on many new models.

ELECTRICITY: Fumbling to fit electric plugs in sockets may soon be outdated. Guiding post on plug automatically aligns prongs with receptacle slots. (Change, Caldwell-Baker Co)

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MEDICINE: Method of administering penicillin via digestive system may supplant painful injection in many instances. Catch, heretofore, has been that penicillin is quickly destroyed by stomach acids. This difficulty was solved by suspending drug in cottonseed oil, sealing it in a gelatin capsule. In this form it passes into intestines, where capsule dissolves and penicillin is absorbed directly into bloodstream. (Am Cyanamid Co)

PRODUCTS: New product called Floralife is now being offered in retail outlets. Added to water, claim is that it doubles life of cut flowers.

RADIO: Radio mfg will employ 145,000 after the war—increase of nearly 70% since '40. (From a survey by Radio Migrs Ass'n)

Pulse time Modulation, new method, permits 12 different radio programs to be transmitted simultaneously over one frequency. Listener turns multi-position switch on receiver to tune in one desired. Invention has no practical application now; must await concerted action by radio stations and makers of sets. (Federal Telephone & Radio Corp'n)

NAZI-Influence

Two age groups spent all their formative yrs under the influence of the Nazi regime: those who today are 19 or 20 yrs old. Twelve age groups spent the majority of their formative yrs under the regime; those who today are between the ages of 21 and 26 and between 13 and 18. Fourteen age groups spent up to half of their formative yrs under the regime: those between 27 and 33 and between 6 and 12 yrs old.—Leopold Schwarzschild, "Threat to Peace: Nazi Youth," N Y Times Mag, 2-4-45.

NEGRO-Equality

Equality is a thing which should not be demanded, because it cannot be granted; it has to be earned. No utopian dreamer can achieve it for another man. You can't drink from the spring high on the mountain unless you climb for the water. If the Negro wants equality, except for opportunity, he must pay for it, and the unalterable price is character and achievement. — C C SPAULDING, pres, North Carolina Mutual Insurance Co, most successful Negro insurance co in U S.

ORIGINS

In the days of the early Romans a species of shellfish, a kind of snail, was nearly exterminated because it was the only source of the dye called "Tyrian Purple." Wool fixed with this color sold for \$350 per lb in gold, which accounts for the modern expression "royal purple". No one but members of the Emperor's family could afford such a luxury.—IDA M PARDUE.

PROGRESS

Even if you use all of the knowledge you now possess, and cease acquiring more knowledge, your progress will be short-lived.—F W Nichol.

RATIONING

After the OPA's cancellation of ration stamps we heard a lot of muttering from people who said that the food control agency had gone back on its pledges.

Well, these people shouldn't have any further cause for complaint about broken faith if they saw the headline we noticed the other day:

"Less Meat Next Month Promised Civilians by OPA."

You needn't promise any more, boys. We believe you.—Editorial, Scripps-Howard Newspapers

VIEWPOINT

The Peacock, spreading his gorgeous tail, stalked up and down in his most stately manner before a crane, and ridiculed him for his plainness of plumage." "I am robed in purple and gold, while you have not a bit of color." Said the Crane: "Which is the better now, to strut about in the dirt or to soar above the clouds, as I do?"—Good House-keeping, 2-'45.

"As they say. . ."

Bringing you up to the minute on slang terms current in the European Theater of Operations:

Browned off—Burned up.
Blitz buggy—Ambulance.

Big wheels—Powers that be. Bucking—Striving for promotion or gain.

Can-Tank.

Chair borne division—Base personnel.

Clobber—To straddle with bombs, or shoot down.

Dim view—Regard poorly.

Doughs or Doughjeet—Infantrymen. (Replacing "doughboy" of last war.)

ETO happy—Result of being too long in European Theater of Operations.

Hershey bars-Overseas service stripes.

Hardware—Insignia of officers. Pneumonia buggy—Jeep. Pub crawling—Touring pubs. Rat race—Aerial battle.

Section 8—Mental case. Spamland—England.

Zebra—Noncom with lots of stripes.

-E R Noderer, Chicago Tribune.

WORK

Remember when they didn't have to use "Men Workin'" signs—you could tell they were workin' by watchin' 'em.—Tode Tuttle, syndicated feature.

"Sometimes he is called a 'dictator' . . ."

"I am writing my impressions of China as a Chinese who saw the country from the inside after 7 yrs of war," says Lin Yurang, in the preface to his new book, The Vigil of a Nation (John Day, \$2.75). "One cannot begin to discuss the problems of a country," continues the author, "until one has some pictures of the land and its people." This popular Chinese philosopher proves himself a capable and most engaging commentator on the contemporary scene. He is neither a mbr of the Kuomintang nor of the Chinese Communist party, but sees them as problems of China's emerging unity as a nation. Dr Lin has just ret'd from China where he spent 6 mo's and visited 7 provinces. We present, in necessarily abridged form, his pen portrait of President Chinang Kal-shek.

I saw Pres and Mme Chiang Kaishek six times on this trip. Usually Mme Chiang came in first. She put me at ease, so that even when she looked at the hole in the sole of my only pair of leather shoes, I did not feel embarrassed.

The Pres would come in with a courteous, soft-voiced greeting. His enormous eyes gave you a direct look, softened by his reassuring smile. In his Chinese jacket and gown, he was very good to look at. When he looked serious, he looked very serious. But otherwise it was a face soft-skinned and firm and without a wrinkle at the age of 57, with a gentleness and refinement totally unexpected in a man who had been heading strenuous campaigns for 18 yrs. He appears not like a man in the hustle and bustle of war, but like a chess player who knows in his mental calculations that he has already won the game.

Chiang Kai-shek is a man influenced by the humanistic culture of the past, a Confucian in outlook and personal living, matured with experience and grown broader and more tolerant than in his younger yrs. The bitterness and harshness of early campaigning are gone. One can no longer think of him only as an able gen'l, tho he has united China by superior force and strategy. One has to think of him now as a ruler of a transforming state.

This is a point difficult to appreciate apart from the contemporary Chinese background. Sometimes he is called a "dictator," and there is no question that he and nobody else rules China. Yet when one looks back, it is surprising that, with the exception of the "purge" of Communists after 1927, it is a

regime devoid of "political murders" or wholesale "purges" of the Russian and German type. He never turned against his revolutionary comrades and did not kill one of them. He shut up, on occasion, his political opponents and placed them under surveillance, and later released them. He fought certain gen'ls, and then was able to win them over and work with them. It had to be so in China, and credit must go both to Chiang and to his opponents.

At lunch or dinner, we invariably had good but simple meals. Having grown up from a poor family, the President loves his rice congee. Being a military man he eats very fast. He neither smokes nor drinks. He likes water. His personal habits border on Spartan asceticism. He gets up at five or half-past, has his hour of reading and meditation and his simple breakfast. . . He cannot stand dirt, sloppiness, or lack of order. Before the war, at the Aviation Academy, he used to go about inspecting rooms. He would run his fingers over window sills or even the tops of doors, and woe to the cadet whose room was found with a speck of dust.

Is he ever angry? Yes, he is. He doesn't swear, and doesn't have to; his anger is enough. If Chiang has any fault, it is his stubbornness. When he was kidnapped and held captive at Sian, he refused to talk terms. They could kill him, but he wouldn't negotiate. His release had to be unconditional.

Chiang knew that he had unified China by force and strategy before the war; since then he has achieved a different kind of loyalty—a loyalty in the hearts of the common people.



Hot Afternoons Have Been in Montana

ELI STEGEL

Twenty yrs ago-in Feb, '25-the Nation, liberal jnl, awarded its annual poetry prize to a young Russian-born Baltimore printer, who had never before had a poem printed. His poem, characterized by the editors as "a projound and important and beautiful vision," won over 4,000 entries, including those of Clement Wood, Jos Auslander, Maxwell Bodenheim. The poem caused wide controversy, was a mild sensation of the period. The poet, who has not fulfilled his early promise, still lives in Baltimore; makes a precarious living by teaching poetry. These are the concluding lines:

Hot afternoons are real; afternoons are; places, things, thoughts, feelings are; poetry is;

The world is waiting to be known; Earth, what it has in it! The past is in it;

All words, feelings, movements, words, bodies, clothes, girls, trees, stones, things of beauty, books desires are in it; and all are to be known:

Afternoons have to do with the whole world;

And the beauty of mind, feeling knowingly the world!

The world of girls' beautiful faces, bodies and clothes, quiet afternoons, graceful birds, great words, tearful music, mind-joying poetry, beautiful livings, loved things, known things, a to-be-used and known and pleasure-to-be giving world.

At an ice-pond, the guests formed a long queue of red, blue, and green-coated skaters doing a winding conga chain to music.

A woman sighed as she watched the weaving figures, turned to the cigar smoking man beside her. "It's so wonderful," she said. "It's so real —just like in the movies."—PM.

44 99

At a dinner party the guests were discussing whether women or men were the most trustworthy in business. "No woman can keep a secret," said one man scornfully.

"I don't know," retorted the forbidding-looking woman sitting opposite him. "I've kept my age a secret ever since I was 24."

"You'll let it out someday, though," replied the man.

"I doubt it," was the answer;
"when a woman has kept a secret
for 20 yrs, she can keep it forever."

—Journeyman Barber.



It takes MacArthur to bring them to their Japanese!—Sales Mg't.

SEABEE: a soldier in a Navy uniform, with Commando training, doing civilian work at WPA wages. — Louisville Courier-Jnl.

66 99

In the depression, railways starved because the publicity was wrong. They should have advertised beseeching the public to stay off trains.—Detroit News.

In Berlin now, when a man bites a dog it isn't news. It's lunch.—Answers.

GOOD STORIES

I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE FRITZ KREISLER

I was walking with a friend one day when we chanced to pass a large fish mkt. There was a fine catch of codfish, neatly arranged in rows. Somehow, those wide open mouths and eyes staring fascinated me. Then I remembered.

Clutching my friend in frantic haste, I exclaimed: "Heavens! That reminds me—I should be playing at a concert!"—Quoted in Coronet.

A restaurant in Hempstead, N Y, has streamlined its order system to attract air-minded GIs from nearby Mitchel Field. A small microphone allows the waiter to page the kitchen: "Counter commander to range officer. Fry two with ham, over. Are you receiving?" Back from the kitchen comes a filtered voice: "Roger. Request counter commander pick up orders of steak. You may come in."—Yank.

Two old-time legislators, Sen Blackburn and Sen Beck, from below the Mason-Dixon line, were reputed to be excellent judges of liquor. A certain Washington whiskey dealer was preparing to fill the order of a fastidious customer from a barrel of fine old bourbon he had just received, when it occurred to him to have the 2 experts pass upon the quality of the product.

Blackburn tasted the bourbon, smacked his lips and said he believed there was a little iron in it. Beck then sampled it and said, "Very good, but I think I detect the taste of leather."

In the bottom of the barrel was found a carpet tack with a leather cap.—Wall St Jnl.

In 1934 the (Washington) Monument was scrubbed for the 1st time. For this work the largest steel scaffolding ever erected was built around it. During this time, a departing Republican saw this from his train window. Arriving in N Y he dashed to his party's headquarters. "That Man in the White House," he cried, "has got the Washington Monument all crated up and is planning to ship it to Hyde Park!" — DONALD CULROSS PEATTIE, Kivanis Mag.

(Note: Washington Monument was 60 yrs old last wk. Dedicated Feb 21, '85, since Washington's birthday that yr came on Sunday.)

